

ABSTRACT

There is described an image-processing apparatus, which makes it possible to clearly and accurately recognize the image defect caused by the defect of the recording medium. The apparatus processes image signals acquired by scanning an image, recorded on a recording medium, with an image reading light. The apparatus includes a defect-detecting signal generating section to scan the image with a defect detecting light, so as to generate defect detecting signals, which can be employed for detecting a defect of the image; a converting section to apply a multiple-resolution conversion processing to the defect detecting signals, generated by the defect-detecting signal generating section, so as to decompose the defect detecting signals into multiple-resolution signal components; and a recognizing section to recognize a presence or absence of the defect in the image, based on the multiple-resolution signal components decomposed by the converting section. The multiple-resolution conversion could be the Dyadic Wavelet transform.